

date not later than January 31, 2002. The Coast Guard will issue STCW certificates and endorsements for service beyond January 31, 2002, only to those who meet certain new requirements under the 1995 Amendments to STCW. The interim rule will be published in the near future and will identify those requirements, which must be met to attain a certificate or endorsement for service beyond February 1, 2002.

Dated: January 30, 1997.

R.D. Herr,
Vice Admiral, U.S. Coast Guard, Acting
Commandant.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

50 CFR Part 17

RIN 1018-AC99

Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Notice of 30-Day Extension and Reopening of Public Comment Period on the Proposed Rule To List 10 Plants From the Foothills of the Sierra Nevada Mountains as Threatened or Endangered

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of extension and reopening of comment period on proposed rule.

SUMMARY: The Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), pursuant to the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (Act), provides notice of reopening of the comment period on the proposed endangered status for *Brodiaea pallida* (Chinese Camp brodiaea), *Calyptridium puchellum* (Mariposa pussypaws), *Lupinus citrinus* var. *deflexus* (Mariposa lupine) and *Mimulus shevockii* (Kelso Creek monkeyflower) and proposed threatened status for *Allium tuolumnense* (Rawhide Hill onion), *Carpenteria californica* (carpenteria), *Clarkia springvillensis* (Springville clarkia), *Fritillaria striata* (striped adobe lily), *Navarretia setiloba* (Piute Mountains navarretia), and *Verbena californica* (California vervain). The comment period is reopened to acquire

new and updated information from interested parties on these 10 plants.

DATES: The public comment period closes March 6, 1997. Any comments received by the closing date will be considered in the final decision on this proposal.

ADDRESSES: Written comments and materials concerning this proposal should be sent to the Field Supervisor, Sacramento Field Office, 3310 El Camino Avenue, Suite 130, Sacramento, California 95821-6340. Comments and materials received will be available for inspection, by appointment, during normal business hours at the above address.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ken Fuller of the Sacramento Field Office (see **ADDRESSES** section) at (916) 979-2120.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

On October 4, 1994, the Service published a rule proposing endangered status for *Brodiaea pallida*, *Calyptridium puchellum*, *Lupinus citrinus* var. *deflexus* and *Mimulus shevockii* and proposed threatened status for *Allium tuolumnense*, *Carpenteria californica*, *Clarkia springvillensis*, *Fritillaria striata*, *Navarretia setiloba*, and *Verbena californica*. The original comment period closed on December 5, 1994. On December 29, 1994, the comment period was reopened and extended until February 13, 1995 (59 FR 67268) to accommodate the public hearing that was requested. Due to requests for additional time, the comment period was extended until June 4, 1995 (60 FR 8342).

These 10 plants and their habitats are known from annual grasslands, chaparral, Joshua tree, pinyon-juniper, blue oak, and digger pine woodland communities in the foothills of the Sierra Nevada Mountains in central California. These plants are threatened by one or more of the following: agricultural land conversion, urbanization, logging, highway construction and road maintenance activities, inappropriate grazing, off-highway vehicle use, mining, insect predation, inadequate regulatory mechanisms, stochastic extinction from random natural events, and incompatible fire management activities.

The Service was unable to make a final listing determination on these species because a moratorium on listing actions (Public Law 104-6), which took effect on April 10, 1995, stipulated that no funds could be used to make final listing determinations or critical habitat determinations. With the lifting, on April 26, 1996, of the moratorium on final listing actions and the restoration of significant funding for listing through passage of the omnibus budget reconciliation law on, the Service is proceeding with a final determination for these species. Due to the length of time that has elapsed since the close of the last comment period, the comment period is being reopened. Changes in procedural and biological circumstances, and the need to consider the best scientific information available in this rulemaking process necessitate this action. The Service believes that updated threat information may be available that may significantly affect final listing determinations. For these reasons, the Service seeks information made available in the last 2 years concerning:

(1) Biological, commercial, or other relevant data on any threats (or lack thereof) to any of these 10 species, but particularly for *Calyptridium puchellum*, *Fritillaria striata*, *Lupinus citrinus* var. *deflexus*, and *Navarretia setiloba*;

(2) Additional information on the size, number or distribution of populations; and

(3) Specific information concerning the known or potential effects of fire suppression and general fire management practices on *Carpenteria californica*.

Written comments may be submitted through March 6, 1997 to the Service office in the **ADDRESSES** section.

Author

The primary author of this notice is Ken Fuller (see **ADDRESSES** section).

Authority

The authority for this action is the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*).

Dated: January 28, 1997.

Thomas J. Dwyer,

Acting Regional Director.

[FR Doc. 97-2679 Filed 2-3-97; 8:45 am]

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